

GOOD-FAITH NOTE GETS INTO COURT

Sequel to Mebane's Spray
School of Technology

MISTRIAL IS ORDERED

In Case of D. F. King vs. B.
Frank Mebane for \$1,500
Note Given as Evidence of
Good Faith in School Project.

Reidsville, June 21.—Perhaps the most interesting case tried at the term of the superior court which has been in session at Wentworth for two weeks for the trial of civil cases only was the case of D. F. King, of Leaksville, against B. Frank Mebane, of Spray.

Briefly reviewing the status of the case, an examination of the pleadings discloses the following: It seems that in 1908 Mr. B. Frank Mebane conceived the plan of establishing in the vicinity of Spray a modern, well-equipped School of Technology, which was to have been at the head of the class of such institutions throughout the country, and was to assume a position at once unique in the southern textile manufacturing world. This school was to have been the place where any young man from any county in North Carolina might go and with free tuition would be furnished the opportunity to learn the textile business, while at the same time the various mills would give the student enough practical work from which he would derive enough emolument to pay his board and expenses. It was through Mr. Mebane's efforts that the State Legislature incorporated the Spray School of Technology, and such distinguished gentlemen as Dr. Walter H. Page (now ambassador to England), Dr. E. A. Alderman, Prof. Geo. T. Winston, the late Charles B. Aycock and other notable men were named as a board of trustees, while the State was to contribute five thousand dollars a year toward the maintenance of the school. Mr. Mebane also secured the aid of Andrew Carnegie, who agreed to contribute fifty thousand dollars toward the erection of suitable buildings, just as soon as the site was selected. The Spray corporation, with which Mr. Mebane had influence, agreed to contribute \$120,000. In selecting a site Mr. Mebane attempted to purchase both the Leaksville-Spray Institute for the school and the Leaksville Furniture Company building, in which the practical demonstrations might be made.

It seems that among the stockholders of both school and factory there were some who doubted Mr. Mebane's purpose and good faith in the matter; so, in order to show his good intentions and that he purposed to exert every effort toward building the school, Mr. Mebane appeared before the school board and assured them that his plans were made and his great ambition was to perfect them, if possible, and as evidence of his good faith he executed a note for fifteen hundred dollars to D. F. King and other trustees of the Leaksville-Spray Institute in which he agreed to pay them the sum above mentioned should he fail to use every possible energy and effort toward establishing the School of Technology. Mr. Mebane now contends his plans did not mature and the great future for the school has not been realized because, when he attempted to purchase nine acres of land, immediately adjacent to the institute property and which he contends the School of Technology could not get along without, that Mr. King placed the exorbitant price of one thousand dollars per acre upon the land, which he refused to pay, and Mr. Mebane further declares in his pleadings that Mr. King's attitude was one great reason why he failed to secure the school for the county.

When the plans of the School of Technology failed to materialize Mr. King and the other trustees brought to light this note of fifteen hundred dollars, and it was upon this note that the great legal battle hinged this week. The case was aggressively fought before Judge Cooke.

Mr. Mebane was made represented by Attorneys A. L. Brooks, of Greensboro; Charles O. McMichael, of Wentworth, and Johnston, Ivie & Dalton, of Leaksville-Reidsville. Mr. King's side of the trial was ably handled by Attorneys E. J. Justice, of Greensboro, and Hugh R. Scott, of Reidsville.

Mr. Mebane was ably represented case and his honor delivered a splendid charge. The jury was in consultation five hours, after which they appeared before the judge and told him they were hopelessly divided and could not agree; so Judge Cooke discharged the jury and ordered that a mistrial be had.

It was later learned that the jury

stood eleven for a verdict in Mebane's favor, while one juror stood for Mr. King's contentions. The case will likely be tried again at an early date.

NEW CHINA UP TO DATE

New York, June 21.—The China up-to-date, and not the China of the Manchus, is described so well in the report of the Shanghai agent of the American Bible Society that one gets an admirable picture of Far East life. A year has passed since the inauguration of the new republic, and the reconstruction period has been remarkably free from disorder. Missionaries are back at their stations and pursuing their work in peace and quiet, and under more favorable conditions than ever before. The outburst of ridicule with which the adoption of a republican form of government was received has died away, and it is generally recognized among those who know them best that the Chinese are capable of solving the problem of self-government, and that they will evolve the system under whatever name best suited to their needs. They are a very resourceful people, and will not fail in anything they undertake.

There are very knotty problems for the new China to solve in connection with finance and the outlying possessions, particularly Mongolia, but she will arrive at a correct solution some how, some day.

The haughtiness and overbearing manner of the old mandarin has been replaced by a democratic spirit which is truly commendable. Our representative in the capital had some business with an official high in one of the principal departments of the central government. He called several times at his office and found him out, but left his card. One day he met him riding up one of the principal streets of the city in a brougham. The official saw the foreigner walking in the opposite direction, stopped him, got out of his brougham and attended to the business on the street! Such a thing was unheard of under the old regime. The new officials are courteous, easily approached and prompt in the dispatch of business.

With the new China has come a new era for Christian missions. The profession of Christianity is no longer a bar to official employment. Many high offices are filled by earnest, active Christian men who live their religion and make no secret of it. The ban on Christianity has been removed, and it looks as if the most perfect religious liberty will be accorded to all classes of the people. The Gregorian calendar has been adopted and all public offices in Peking are closed on Sunday. This recognition of the Sabbath as a day of rest is a distinct influence in our favor.

Perhaps the most notable and remarkable change is in the attitude of the common people toward the foreigner. In the old days one could not put his head out of his house without being reviled as a "foreign devil" or worse, and on a journey the ring of epithets was never out of one's ears. Now it is the rarest thing possible to hear a single disrespectful word even when traveling in the interior.

On the streets, in the markets, at the fairs the sales have been unprecedented. This is perhaps due to the fact that for the first time the people feel that they are perfectly free to buy if they want, and the possession of Christian books will not entail any trouble. At one of the great fairs in Peking Mr. Strong himself sold on an average one thousand copies a day for twelve days.

Another very remarkable thing is the demand for Bibles and Testaments from students—not only those in the mission schools, but those in the government schools as well. In some cases this may be accounted for by the influence of Christian teachers in the government schools. In some cases these pupils go so far as to demand to know the teaching of the Bible, and the teachers were forced to add the Bible as a text-book to the curriculum. Literally hundreds of copies of the Bible have been sold to these students who before the revolution would have been conspicuous by their opposition to Christianity.

On New Year's Day the Temple and Altar of Heaven were for the first time freely thrown open to the public. Mr. Strong was given a place on the balcony of the Temple of Heaven, directly opposite the main entrance, for selling Scriptures. This is the first time any one has had official permission to sell Bibles and preach the gospel from this sacred place. He and the colporteurs continued this work for ten days.

The fact of the matter is that all of the barriers have been broken down. China is open, as never before, to the Gospel. The attitude of the people is that of honest, interested, receptive inquiries after the Truth, and it only remains for the Church to enter in and possess the land for Jesus Christ.

A new windmill has horizontally arranged vanes, so sheltered by a hood that those which move against the wind do not feel its force, thereby permitting increased size and power.

THE GOWRIE CONSPIRACY.

The famous Gowrie conspiracy, which resulted in the narrow escape with his life of King James of Scotland on August 5, 1600, has never been fully cleared up, for the reason that the two chief conspirators were killed before they had a chance to explain. It is a strange story, the bungling way in which the Earl of Gowrie and his brother, Alexander Ruthven, tried to murder their monarch, and it is even hinted that the entire story was a fake and that it was started to help the king in gaining popularity with his subjects.

On the morning of the day in which this event took place, the king and his followers were preparing at Falkland to go on a hunting expedition. As they were about to start a young man of barely twenty years approached the party and engaged in conversation with the king. This was Alexander Ruthven. He told a most unusual story of a vagrant Highlander, who knew of a secret treasure and who might be conversed with at Gowrie house in Perth.

The king's curiosity was excited and he decided to forego the hunting trip and with a small party started for the Gowrie house. They reached the place in time for an early dinner, and after the meal Ruthven conducted the king through a series of chambers, the doors of which the young man locked behind them. Finally they came to a small turret closet, and when they were admitted the king found before him a man completely armed, who was an attendant of the Earl of Gowrie. Ruthven snatched a dagger from the man and told the king that he was a prisoner, held so on account of the death of the conspirator's father. The king remonstrated and told Ruthven that he was a minor at the time and was in no way concerned with the death of the father, but instead had restored the family to its rank and estates. The king then demanded what he wanted, and Ruthven informed him that he would bring his brother to tell him.

During his absence the king induced the armed attendant to open one of the windows looking to the neighboring street, and while the man was proceeding to open it, Ruthven rushed in and attempted to bind the king. A struggle ensued in which the armed man gave the king some useful help, and James was just able to get near enough to the window to call out "Treason."

The cry was heard by the companions of the king, and the armed man was so overcome with terror that he opened the door and let in Sir John Ramsay, who immediately relieved his struggling master by stabbing Ruthven and thrusting him down the stairs. As the conspirator descended, wounded and bleeding, he was met by two or three others of the king's attendants and by them he was despatched, saying as he fell: "Alas! I had not the blame of it."

He was not able to give any other explanation as to who was to blame, and consequently no one has ever been able to find out whether Gowrie and Ruthven were alone in the conspiracy, or whether it was a conspiracy of a much greater import. Just about the time that Ruthven was disposed of Gowrie and several attendants rushed into the turret closet and Gowrie was pierced through the heart by Ramsay, and his men sent wounded and discomfited downstairs.

It was certainly a peculiar incident. Gowrie and his brother were accomplished young men, in good favor at court, and popular in Perth. It seemed unaccountable that they would have undertaken, without giving any previous hint, such a murderous conspiracy, being so ill-provided with the means of carrying it out successfully.

An attempt was made to bring out evidence to show that they had been led to frame a plan for the seizure of the royal person, though whether for the sake of the influence they could thereby exercise in the government or with some hazy design of taking vengeance for their father's death, has never been made clear.

The king and his retinue were emphatic in their statement that the foregoing facts given had occurred, and one eminent clergyman, Rev. Robert Bruce, who was most pronounced in his disbelief of the story, was compelled to undergo a banishment of thirty years. That the king should have been able to have been decoyed in this way into a strange house and allowed himself to be led, unarmed, through a series of uninhabited chambers, was the real reason for so much disbelief.

"TO A CHERRY."

Delightful little cherry,
Did you make yourself to be—
The wonder-thing of beauty
That I find you are to me?

Your color-scheme is splendid,
Its choice is quite serene;
Such a pretty rich deep red,
With stem of cheerful green.

Where did you get the wisdom,
To hide yourself within;
So safe and strong a texture
Of finest smooth-made skin?

And how could you remember
To carry in your hold,
A point to make a tree of,
More glory to unfold?

God made you, little cherry,
A treat from Him, you are;
To taste your inner sweetness,
Is to thank and love Him more.

—Mary Lodge.

CALDWELL COUNTY MAN IS HONORED

L. S. Cannon Appointed to \$3,-
200 Position

IN U. S. PENSION BUREAU

Major Hale Confirmed as Minister to Costa Rica—G. H. Russell Recommended for Laurinburg Postmastership.

(By W. E. YELVERTON.)

Washington, D. C., June 21.—Senator Overman was notified today that L. S. Cannon, formerly of Caldwell county, N. C., has been appointed chief of the board of examiners in the United States pension bureau, a position that pays \$3,200 a year. He is the first Southern man ever to hold this position, no other administration having seemed to relish the idea of having a Southern man pass on applications of Northern soldiers for pensions. Mr. Cannon was graduated from Wake Forest College in the class of 1892, along with Attorney General Bickett, and was valedictorian of his class. His record for scholarship at that institution was exceptionally high. He has been in the pension bureau for several years.

G. H. Russell, of Laurinburg, was today recommended by Representative Page for the position of postmaster at that place. This is one of the most important offices in Mr. Page's district. Mr. Russell is a lawyer, formerly register of deeds.

J. H. Bowen, of West Durham, was today confirmed by the Senate as postmaster at that place.

The only other North Carolina confirmation was that of Major E. J. Hale, of Fayetteville, as minister to Costa Rica. There was never any doubt but that Major Hale would be confirmed as soon as the Senate could reach his name in regular order.

CHOOSING CHILDREN.

Field Worker in Employ of Eugenics Record Office Discusses an Article in Cosmopolitan Magazine—Tells of Necessity for Charts.

The July number of the Cosmopolitan contains an excellent article on "Do you choose your children?" The article gives a description of results accomplished by the "Eugenics Record" office, which, during the past year has been furnishing a field worker for the North Carolina School for the Feeble-Minded.

This office employs twelve field-workers, who are paid by Mrs. E. H. Harriman. After a field worker does enough work to demonstrate the value of the heredity charts, it is expected that the institution, to which she is furnished, will pay her salary and expenses, and another institution will be favored with one of the twelve.

It is hoped that gradually all the States will become educated to the idea that it is more economical to put within the knowledge of the people the laws of heredity and to have field in the charge of bgsstavbkgqH filed in the charge of experts, their family history, so that they may be advised against making marriages that are certain to produce feeble-minded, epileptic, insane or tubercular children, than it is to maintain the products of such marriages.

After exhaustive field work has been done on a family's history, all persons of that family who are not indifferent to the welfare of their children, can insure themselves before marriage of having only normal children. This does not mean that any normal person is to abstain from having children. It means they must marry certain kinds of persons instead of certain kinds.

Some say that will destroy the romance of marriages. A woman, who is nursing day after day, year after year, a feeble-minded epileptic child, does not feel very romantic about it. It would have been much easier for her to have secured another husband, and have been certain of having only normal children.

It is thought there is no family in our country that has not defectives in some lines. All the scientists, who are interested in broadcasting these new discoveries, are themselves writing genetic histories of their own families and filing them at the Eugenics Record office for the benefit of their descendants.

If all the persons in this country would read the article in the Cosmopolitan, they would be able to give the field worker more intelligent cooperation, if the work is continued during next year.

Those who have co-operated should certainly read it, so they can get a fuller understanding of the inestimable value of the records they have helped to make, both to science and to their own descendants.

A FIELD WORKER.